

Sunday Bulletin
June 15th 2025 – 1st Sunday after Pentecost
of All Saints



Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church
1025 N Belle Vista Ave, Youngstown, Ohio 44509



Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian
Orthodox Church

Українська Православна
Церква Святих Петра і Павла
1025 N. Belle Vista Ave
Youngstown, OH 44509-1616
Phone: 330-799-3830

Email: stspeterpauluoc@gmail.com

Fr. Mykola Zomchak
Pastor

Anna Anderson
Choir Director

Chuck Woloschak
President of the Church Council

Ministries:

Altar Servers
Church Choir
Church School
Adult Education
St. Mary's Sisterhood
Sts. Peter & Paul Brotherhood
Senior UOL Chapter
Junior UOL Chapter
Youth Ministry
Orphanage Mission Ministry
Bingo Team
Fr Mykola Zomchak - Editor

Website:

<http://www.stspeterpauluoc.org>



STS Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church

*We invite you to a celebration
of the Resurrection of Christ*



Sunday Bulletin

June 15th 2025 – 1st Sunday after Pentecost – All Saints

In Honor of the 2025 Graduates of our Parish

- bull 9

**In honor of All the Fathers
of our Parish - both here on
earth & up in heaven**

- bull 8

Memory Eternal to Michael Sernulka

- bull 16

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Displaced Elderly** - bull 14

Tone 8 Troparion (Resurrection)

You descended from on high, O Merciful One! You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!// O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

Tone 4 Troparion (All Saints)

As with fine porphyry and royal purple,
Your Church has been adorned with Your martyrs' blood shed throughout all the world. She cries to You, O Christ God: "Send down Your bounties on Your people,// grant peace to Your habitation and great mercy to our souls!"

Tone 8 Kontakion (All Saints)

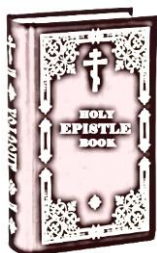
The universe offers You the God-bearing Martyrs as the first fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator. By their prayers keep Your Church, Your habitation, in abiding peace// through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!

Tone 8 Prokeimenon (Pentecostarion)

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God! (Ps. 75:10a)

V. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel. (Ps. 75:1)

The Reading is from the Letter of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews 11:33-12:2



Who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

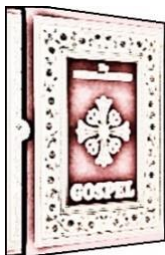
Alleluia and Verses Tone 1

V. By the Word of the Lord the heavens were made; and all their host by the Spirit of His mouth

V. The Lord looked down from heaven, and saw all the sons of men.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

The reading is from the Gospel according to St. Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30



Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. Then Peter answered and said to Him, "See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?" So Jesus said to them, "Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! *(Ps. 148:1)*

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! *(Ps. 32:1)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

MEMORY ETERNAL

PLEASE PRAY FOR RESTING OF THE SOULS

Arlene Hawryluk, Mary C. Moon, Metro Senedak, Eleanor K. Laise, Julian Naumenko, Patricia Huly, David Scharba, John Senediak, Ann & George Klein, Sophia Karpa, Iryna Farion, Charles Demetrios, Nun Antonina, Elaine Cartier, Betty Ewanish, Mary Gula, Mykola Prychodzenko, Oleksander Dmytro. Victims of the war in Ukraine.

PRAYER LIST

PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING, COMFORT, AND SPIRITUAL PEACE



Metropolitan Anthony, Archbishop Daniel, Peter Borovitcky, Lorenzo, Rick Wilson, Walter Malys, Tom Drabick, Walter Duzzny, Lori, Christine Kline, Jerry Zets, Larry, Darlene Moon, Jeff Smith, Soldier Ivan, Bernard Gnat, Dolly Mehalco, Jeff Ulbrich, Richard Scharba, Brittany, Matt, Stephen Shonn, Thelma Zemko, Artur Bohuslav, Bohdan, Lori Hayda, Shirley Duffy, Michele (Senediak) Caulder, Dobrodiyka Lilya, Sandy, Marilyn O'Leary, Alice Dobransky, Harold Owens, Dave Zylka, Marianne Carmack, Nicholas Yurchyk, Pauline Witkowsky, Eileen Maluk, Peter Anderson, Albert Auden, Michael Gino Maluk, Boris & Kathleen Vuksanovich, Kathy Zebel. People Suffering from any Illnesses. Ukrainian people suffering from war.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

4 Kathleen Vuksanovich	9 Jordan Duzzny
4 David McCormick	11 Joe Novicky
4 Gayle Woloschak	12 Nichole Spencer
5 Mila Woloschak	16 Diane Senedak
5 Frank Senediak	21 Sarah Moon
6 Kaden Crown	21 Sydney Moon
6 Lisa Davis	22 Maria Battisti
7 Catie Rose Duzzny	23 Bobbi Yarosh
7 Michael Duzzny	23 Mike Moon
7 Katherine Battisti	24 Anna Ratliff
8 Nicholas Duzzny	26 Darlene Moon
9 Joe Rimedio	28 Mark C. Demetrius

Reflection on the Saints

The saints are not distant, untouchable icons of perfection. They are real people—flawed, broken, yet transformed by grace. Their lives remind us that holiness is not reserved for the extraordinary but is the calling of every Christian.

Saints walked the same earth we walk. They faced temptations, sorrow, illness, doubt, and suffering. Some were scholars, others were peasants; some were mystics, others warriors; some lived in cloisters, others raised families. But all had one thing in common: they allowed Christ to shape their lives.

We honor the saints not to glorify them, but to glorify the God who worked through them. Their faith, courage, and love are mirrors reflecting the light of Christ into our own lives. When we read their stories or ask their intercession, we're reminded that we're never alone. We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses cheering us on.

The saints inspire us to love more deeply, pray more fervently, forgive more freely, and serve more humbly. And they remind us that no one is beyond redemption, that the road to heaven is walked one step at a time, often through ordinary acts done with great love.

As we reflect on their lives, may we be moved not just to admiration—but to imitation. May we, too, live in such a way that people might see in us a glimpse of heaven.

May the saints lead us closer to the One who makes all things new.

When we think of the saints, we often imagine radiant halos and heroic deeds. But the true power of their witness lies in the **virtues they lived**—virtues that are not beyond us, but available to all who open their hearts to God.

1. Faith

Saints believed when it was hard to believe. In moments of darkness and confusion, they clung to Christ.

How we grow in faith: We can feed our faith through Scripture, prayer, and trust—even when we don't feel God's presence. Like the saints, we can say, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief."

2. Humility

The saints didn't seek glory for themselves. They knew their goodness came from God alone.



Continue on page 12

Liturgical Schedule & Feast Days

SERVICE AND FEAST DAY SCHEDULE



* (HEARING **CONFESSIONS** ON SUNDAYS BEFORE LITURGY 8:30AM - 9:15AM)

- Sunday, June 15, 9:30AM – **Divine Liturgy, 1th** Sunday after Pentecost
Recognition of our Parish Graduates. Fellowship for the **Graduates/Father's Day**
- Sunday, June 22, 9:30AM – **Divine Liturgy, 2nd** Sunday after Pentecost
- Sunday, June 29, 9:30AM – **Divine Liturgy, 3rd** Sunday after Pentecost
- Sunday, July 6, 9:30AM – **Divine Liturgy, 4th** Sunday after Pentecost
- Sunday, July 13, 9:30AM – **Divine Liturgy, 5th** Sunday after Pentecost
- Sunday, July 20, 9:30AM – **Divine Liturgy, 6th** Sunday after Pentecost
– **Sts Peter & Paul Parish Feast Day**

Upcoming dates & events

- June 15 - **Recognition of our Parish Graduates.** Fellowship for the **Graduates/Father's Day**
- June 19 – **Parish Board Meeting**
- June 22 – **Sr. UOL meeting** following liturgy.
- July 12 – **Christmas in July Sisterhood party at noon at Rachel's.**

OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD	On June 1	On June 8
General:	\$ 1606.50	\$ 2502.00
Renovation:	\$ 136.00	\$ 446.00
Online Donations on Tithe.ly	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00

Bulletin Dedication

(in memory of a loved one, or in honor for the anniversary)

<u>Sun June 1</u>	<u>Sun June 8</u>	<u>Sun June 15</u>	<u>Sun June 22</u>	<u>Sun June 29</u>
1. Available	1. Dedicated	1. Dedicated	1. Available	1. Available
2. Available	2. Available	2. Available	2. Available	2. Available
<u>Sun July 6</u>	<u>Sun July 13</u>	<u>Sun July 20</u>	<u>Sun July 27</u>	
1. Available	1. Available	1. Available	1. Available	
2. Available	2. Available	2. Available	2. Available	

For bulletin dedication please call – 330-799-3830 Fr Mykola

ANNOUNCEMENTS & GREETINGS:



- Let it be known to you of the Impending Marriage of **Peter Majetich**, son of Steven & Elaine Majetich
with **Katherine Anderson**, daughter of David & Anna Anderson
The wedding is June 28, 2025.
The Wedding Ceremony is open to all the parish congregation.

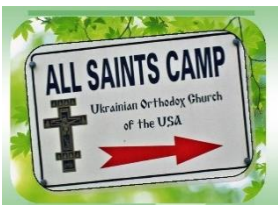
• Congratulations to Catcher Cope on receiving the Holy Sacraments of Baptism and Chrismation!

(Parents: Michael Cope & Taylor Temnick Cope)

On June 8th you have marked the beginning of a sacred journey in Christ. Catcher, as you are baptized, you are clothed with new life in Christ. Through Chrismation, you receive the seal of the Holy Spirit.

May the light of God always guide your heart, and may your lives be filled with faith, hope, and love. It is a true joy and blessing for all of us to witness this special moment in your spiritual life.

With prayerful love and blessings,
Fr. Mykola and Sts. Peter and Paul Parish Family



• Camp Registration Fee Reimbursement.

Dear Parents, if you have registered your kids for our All Saints Church Camp please send us the receipt/statement. The parish will gladly reimburse you the camp registration fee. Please email the receipt to stspeterpauluoc@gmail.com.

• Saint Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church 125th Anniversary Celebration

Dear Parishioners, Saint Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church located at 356 S Belle Vista Ave. Youngstown, OH is celebrating their **125th Anniversary on July 13, 2025**

Divine Liturgy — **3:00pm**

Reception — **5:00pm**

Tickets — **\$50.00**

If any of you would like to attend, please let Fr. Mykola know (along with payment) no later than Sunday June 22nd. Checks for the tickets to — **St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church.**



• Bingo to fight Breast Cancer

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our parish bingo ministry and local community for the hard work, continued generosity and support. Through your participation in our Bingo Night, we are thrilled to announce that **\$2,300.00** has been raised for the Joanie Abdu Breast Care Center.

Your kindness helps bring hope, healing, and vital care to those in need. May God richly bless you for your compassion and commitment.



** Handing the Check to Joanie Abdu Breast Care Center*

- Sts Peter & Paul Parish



Happy FATHER'S Day



Prayer for Fathers

Almighty Lord,
We thank You for the gift of earthly fathers.
Thank You for their strength, wisdom, and love—
For their sacrifices, hard work, and quiet prayers
That so often go unnoticed but are deeply felt.

Lord, Bless all fathers today.
Encourage those who feel the weight of responsibility.
Comfort those who have lost children or live far from them.
Give peace to those who grieve the loss of their own fathers.
Inspire those who are new to fatherhood with patience and courage.

Help every father to reflect Your love—
To be men of integrity, humility, and compassion.
Teach them to lead by serving,
To guide with gentleness, and to discipline with grace.
We also pray for spiritual fathers—bishops, priests, pastors, mentors—
Who nurture others in faith and truth.
May they be able to follow you as true shepherds.
Lord, protect and bless all fathers today and always.
May they feel honored, appreciated, and deeply loved.

In Your Holy Name we pray – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

TODAY WE ARE CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE GRADUATES OF OUR PARISH!



Kloey Woloschak

Kloey Woloschak is the daughter of Mathew Woloschak and the granddaughter of Martha Woloschak and the late Michael Woloschak III. Kloey went to Mahoning County Career Technical School. She went to Jackson-Milton schools before she went to MCCTC for cosmetology school. In cosmetology school, she has achieved all the goals. Some of the things she likes to do are go fishing, and plant flowers and garden. That was one of her grandpa's favorite things to do in his free time.

Evelyn Elizabeth Newton

Evelyn Elizabeth Newton is the daughter of Matthew and Joanna (Woloschak) Newton. She is the granddaughter of Charles Woloschak, Sr. and Ann M. Woloschak, Beth Newton, and Dale and Pat Newton. Evelyn is a 2025 graduate of Dayton Christian High School, where she maintained a 3.75 GPA. She was a fourth-year American Sign Language (ASL) student and served as a teaching assistant for ASL 1, supporting new learners and assisting with instruction. Evelyn also participated in two mission trips to Jamaica, serving at orphanages for deaf children.

A true student-athlete, Evelyn earned an extraordinary 19 varsity letters during her high school career—competing in four



varsity sports as a freshman and five varsity sports each subsequent year. Her athletic involvement included cross country (3 years), football cheer, basketball cheer, swimming, and softball (4 years each). She was a member of a district-qualifying cross country team, two conference champion softball teams, and a State Champion Cheer Team. As a standout softball player, Evelyn earned 1st Team All-Conference honors and served as captain of the softball team, demonstrating both her leadership and commitment to team success.

Outside of athletics, Evelyn leads with a heart for service and a strong sense of responsibility. She actively volunteers with a variety of organizations, helping with church events, packing lunches for those in need, and assisting with chores at a local horse barn. In addition to her volunteer work, Evelyn holds a part-time job as a certified lifeguard at the YMCA, where she contributes to community safety and wellness.

Evelyn will attend Liberty University this fall, with a dual major in American Sign Language Interpretation and Elementary Education.

Jonathan Alan Buzzelli

Jonathan Alan Buzzelli the son of Jackleen and Joseph Buzzelli Jr. will be graduating June 11th, being certified as a paramedic from the paramedic program at University Hospitals Portage Campus. He has completed over 120 different categories of skill, with each category requiring multiple hours of training, focusing on every specialty of health ranging from Respiratory to Cardiology, Pediatrics and even Labor and Delivery. Through all of his training he worked at many well-known facilities, such as University Hospitals in Geauga and Portage counties, Kent Fire Department, University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center, as well as smaller branches of fire departments and hospital branches in Northeast Ohio.



After high school, Jonathan found his love for the medical field while working at Mercy Health. First in transportation then as a telemetry technician in the cardiac unit. He later worked at the ambulance company AMR. While working there, he answered the call with FEMA to help aid in the transportation of patients out of danger during hurricane Ian. Within 3 hours of receiving the call to work in Florida for 2 weeks, he was on a plane going to Georgia, where a fleet of ambulances

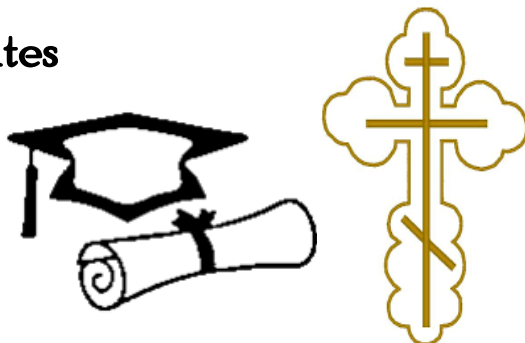
waited for them, and they would continue to drive to southern Florida where hurricane Ian made landfall as a category 4. Within those 2 weeks, they worked through what was a category 5, then reduced to a category 4 hurricane while making landfall, as well as the aftermath to ensure others got to safety then back to their homes or other health facilities.

Jonathan now works with Physicians ambulance company, where he plans to stay for now. Although, with this degree he plans to eventually work on a different ambulance focusing on higher care, such as the Advanced Life Support Team or even the Critical Care Team.

The family of Jonathan would like to express the great amount of pride and joy as he has completed this major task in only 9 months working 60-70 hours weekly. We will always keep him in our prayers as he ventures into danger daily following his heart caring for others.

Prayer for the Graduates

O Lord, grateful of Thy great benefits which Thou hast so richly bestowed upon us in Thy loving-kindness, we bless and give thanks to Thee and we beseech Thee to look graciously upon us and these graduates, who have completed their courses of study. Pour into their hearts, minds, and upon their lips, the spirit of wisdom, understanding, piety, and godly fear; enlighten them with the light of Thy knowledge, and bestow upon them strength and steadfastness, that they may quickly apprehend and willingly embrace all that they have received which is good and profitable, and in accordance with Thy divine law.



Grant that they grow in wisdom and understanding. May they prosper in good works for the glorification of Thy holy Name. Give them health and long life that they may labor for the building up and glory of Thy holy Church, this nation, and of all Thy people.

For Thou art a God, Who is mighty in mercy and gracious in strength, and to Thee we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

How we grow in humility: By giving God the credit, asking for help, admitting our weaknesses, and seeing others as better than ourselves—just as Christ did.

3. Love

The saints loved with the heart of Christ—loving not just their friends, but their enemies; not just in word, but in action.

How we grow in love: By forgiving those who hurt us, serving those in need, and choosing compassion over judgment. Love is a decision, not just a feeling.

4. Patience

Many saints endured suffering—illness, rejection, even martyrdom—without bitterness. They trusted God’s timing.

How we grow in patience: By surrendering control, breathing through trials, and trusting that God is working even when we don’t see it.

5. Prayerfulness

The saints lived in constant dialogue with God. Prayer was not a duty, but a lifeline.

How we grow in prayer: By making space each day for silence, praise, and listening. Even short, heartfelt prayers throughout the day draw us closer to God.

6. Courage

Whether facing lions or loneliness, saints stood firm. They chose Christ over comfort.

How we grow in courage: By standing for truth, defending the weak, and stepping out in faith even when we’re afraid.

7. Joy

Despite hardship, the saints radiated joy—not because life was easy, but because they were close to God.

How we grow in joy: By focusing on God’s blessings, rejoicing in small things, and trusting in the promise of eternal life.

The saints were not born perfect—they became holy by saying “yes” to God, over and over again. So can we.

May we walk the path of virtue with courage, remembering that God does not call the qualified—He qualifies the called. And one day, may we be counted among the saints in light.

“Be holy, for I am holy,” says the Lord

1 Peter 1:16

Orthodox Christianity 101

ANOINTING WITH OIL

The human person was created with an incorruptible and immortal body. After the Fall it lost these qualities and became corruptible and mortal. According to St Gregory the Theologian, the human person 'put on the garment of sin, which is our coarse flesh, and became a body-bearer'. Illness and disease became a part of human life. The root of all infirmity, according to the Church's teaching, is human sinfulness: sin entered the human person in such a way that it polluted not only his soul and intellect, but also his body. If death is a consequence of sin (cf. James 1:15), an illness may be seen as a situation between sin and death: it follows sin and precedes death. It is not, of course, that every particular sin results in a particular illness. The real issue concerns the root of all illness, namely, human corruptibility. As St Symeon the New Theologian remarks, 'doctors cure human bodies... but they can never cure the basic illness of human nature, its corruptibility. For this reason, when they try different means to cure one particular illness, the body then falls prey to another disease'. Human nature, according to St Symeon, needs a physician who can heal it from its corruptibility, and this physician is Jesus Christ Himself.



During His earthly life Christ healed many people. Before healing someone, He often asked him about his faith: 'Do you believe that I am able to do this?' (Matt.9:28) As well as healing the body, Christ also healed the human soul from its most severe disease, unbelief. He also pointed to the Devil as the origin of all illness: of the bent woman He said that she was 'bound by Satan' (see Luke 13:16).

The Church has always considered its own mission as the continuation in all aspects of Jesus Christ's ministry, including healing. Thus, from apostolic times, a sacramental action existed which would later receive the name of Anointing with oil. It is found in the New Testament: 'Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders (literally, presbyters) of the Church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven' (James 4:15-16). It is clear that the question here is not of a normal anointing with oil, which in ancient time was used for medical purposes, but of a special sacramental action. Healing qualities are ascribed here not to the oil, but to the 'prayer of faith'; and physician is not a presbyter, but 'the Lord'.

In the modern-day practice of the Orthodox Church, the sacrament of Anointing has preserved all the original elements described by St James: it is conducted by seven priests (in practice, often, by three or two), prayers and New Testament passages are read, and the sick person is anointed seven times with blessed oil. The prayer of absolution is read by one of the presbyters at the end of the sacrament. The Church believes that, in accordance with St James's words, the sins of the one who receives Anointing are forgiven. This, however, in no way implies that Anointing can be regarded as a

substitute for confession. Unfounded also is the opinion of some Orthodox believers that in Holy Unction all *forgotten* sins, that is, those not mentioned at Confession, are forgiven. The sacrament of Confession, as we said above, results in the forgiveness of *all* sins. The intention behind the sacrament of Anointing with oil Unction is not to supplement Confession, but rather to give new strength to the sick with prayers for the healing of body and soul.

Even more misleading is the interpretation of Anointing as the 'last anointing' before death. This was the understanding of the sacrament in the Roman Catholic Church before Vatican II, and it still finds its place among Orthodox believers. This is a misinterpretation simply because Anointing does not guarantee that a person who received it will necessarily be healed. Rather, one can say that Holy Unction makes the one who receives it participate in Christ's sufferings, renders his bodily illness salvific and healing, liberating him from spiritual illness and death.

According to the Church's teaching, God is able to transform everything evil into something good. In this particular case illness, which by itself is evil and a consequence of corruption, becomes for the human person a source of spiritual benefits. By means of it he participates in Christ's sufferings and is risen with Christ to a new life. There are many cases when illness brings people to death, compels them to change their life and to embark upon the path of repentance that leads to God.

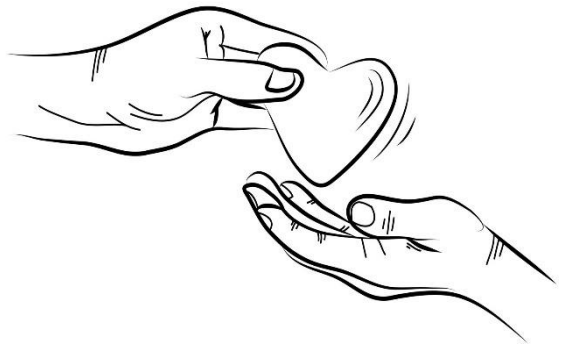
"You Are Not Forgotten": The Ukrainian Orthodox Church of USA Brings Comfort to Displaced Elderly

In the quiet corners of Eastern Ukraine, behind the walls of makeshift shelters and repurposed buildings now serving as homes for the elderly displaced by war, there lives a generation who once cradled this nation in their arms - and now find themselves cradled in the mercy of strangers.

But those strangers are, in truth, brothers and sisters in Christ. Through the compassion of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA (UOC of the USA), and the hands of faithful clergy like the Very Reverend Fr. Kostyantyn Kuznetsov and his wife Natalia, a holy ministry is unfolding - one gift bag, one visit, one conversation at a time.

Fr. Kostyantyn recently visited a home for the elderly where nearly all residents are refugees, many suffering from physical disabilities and almost all bearing the wounds of abandonment. Some speak with joy when guests arrive - recounting stories of their youth, their homes, the gardens they tended, the children they once held. Others, however, remain silent, lost in the silence of deep sorrow.

"There are those who are silent," Fr. Kostyantyn shared, "and the pain of loneliness pierces their hearts and confuses their souls. You are not alone in the room, and yet... your closest relatives have abandoned you. With you, there is only deep longing and tears."



Yet amid this sorrow, hope was brought in humble gifts: meat and dairy, pasta and sweets, hygiene products, cool refreshing drinks - and a small chocolate bar for each person. But greater than these material gifts was the offering of presence. Laughter was shared, stories were exchanged, tears were wiped, hands were held. "We chatted, consoled each other a little, made them laugh and cheered them up," said Fr. Kostyantyn. "We reminded them: You are not forgotten. You are loved."

For Archbishop Daniel, spiritual father of the UOC of the USA, this sacred ministry to the elderly holds profound spiritual meaning: "In every wrinkled face is a story. In every silent tear is a lifetime of prayer. Our elders are not a burden - they are the living roots of our Church, our nation, our identity," Archbishop Daniel has often said.

"Especially in a time of war, when so many elderly people are left behind or displaced, we must become their family. If the Church forgets them, we have forgotten Christ Himself."

This understanding - deeply rooted in Orthodox teaching and Gospel love - compels the UOC of the USA to care not only for the young and strong, but especially for the vulnerable and aged.

"Honor your father and mother," the Scriptures teach, "that your days may be long." And Fr. Kostyantyn echoes this truth with heart-stirring simplicity: "People, respect your parents, your grandparents. They really need to talk. They need to feel needed. And may God never let us know what loneliness is."

The humanitarian outreach of the UOC of the USA does not end at the borders of supplies. It extends into the hearts of volunteers, clergy, donors, and faithful who give not just goods, but themselves. This is a ministry of presence, not performance; of love, not logistics.

It is not simply about delivering a chocolate bar - it is about reminding a forgotten grandmother that her life still matters. It is not just about a warm drink - it is about warming the soul. And so we ask you - dear brothers and sisters in Christ - become part of this sacred mission. Let your heart be moved. Let your hands offer help. Let your prayers surround the elderly who now find themselves strangers in a land they once built with their own hands.

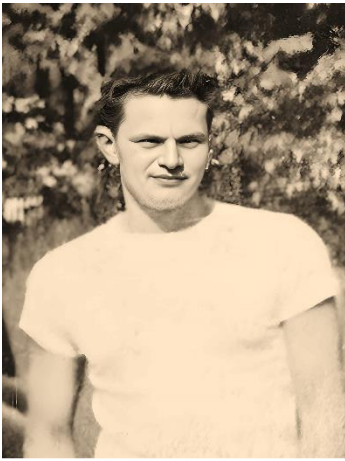
"This ministry is not optional," Archbishop Daniel reminds us. "It is the very heart of who we are. If we do not bring Christ to the lonely, we have not brought Him at all."

To continue this vital outreach to the displaced elderly of Ukraine, we ask you to support the UOC of the USA's charitable ministry with your prayers, your donations, and your voice. Visit www.uocofusa.org to learn how you can help.

Let us be the Church that does not forget its elders. Let us be the Church that remembers love, even in the ruins. Let us bring dignity, joy, and the presence of Christ to those who wait in silence for someone to simply say, "You matter. We are with you. God is with you."

Because indeed - God is with us. And where there is love, there He is.

- *Consistory of the UOC of USA*



In Blessed Repose of
Michael Sernulka
on the 100th anniversary of his birth

June 20, 1925 – April 9, 2008



Lovingly remembered on this Father's Day
by his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren

Memory Eternal
Vichnaya Pamyat



Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. John 11:25